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as "What type of manhood will these South American countries develop?" The significance of his work is, however, most emphasized from the economic standpoint. The chapter entitled "Some Reflections and Forecasts" is one which no student of contemporary South American growth can afford to ignore. It is here that the author's wide experience with men and in public affairs is made manifest.

The reader is often reminded of the fact that no account whatever is taken by the author of the political questions which interest our southern neighbors. It is doubtless wise for a man in Mr. Bryce's position to take this attitude, but the reader cannot help regretting that he is deprived of the benefit of Mr. Bryce's vast experience in such matters. The book, however, offers so much food for thought in other directions that it will be an inspiration and a help.

LEON DOMINIAN.

AFRICA

Die Pflanzenwelt Afrikas insbesondere seiner tropischen Gebiete. Grundzüge der Pflanzenverbreitung in Afrika und die Charakterpflanzen Afrikas. Von A. Engler. 1. Band, 1. u. 2. Hälfte: Allgemeiner Überblick über die Pflanzenwelt Afrikas und ihre Existenzbedingungen. 1. Hälfte, xxviii and 478 pp.; 2. Hälfte, xii and 551 pp. (pp. 479–1029). Maps, ills., index. Wilhelm Engelmann, Leipzig, 1910. 10½ x 7½ each.

For more than ten years Professor Engler, Director of the Berlin Botanical Garden, has been devoting a large share of the energy of his institution to the collection and description of the African flora. A number of botanical expeditions have been sent to the German possessions and to other portions of Africa, and the earlier collections and observations of explorers have been made use of in the furtherance of this ambitious scientific campaign. The assembled results of Engler's work are now being published in a series of five volumes entitled "Die Pflanzenwelt Afrikas," the first of which, in two parts, deals with the vegetation of Africa, and is therefore of wider interest than the succeeding volumes devoted to the classification of the flora.

Engler has confessedly devoted the most attention to the German colonies, and has given us an excellent picture of the character and distribution of their vegetation. For the remainder of Africa he has given a treatment which is sometimes limited by the lack of knowledge, sometimes by the uselessness of duplicating very thoroughgoing accounts of vegetation which are already published. Such readily accessible portions of the continent as the Mediterranean coast and the Cape have been thoroughly explored by botanists and are well known both as respects their flora and their vegetation, while large areas of the interior are practically a virgin field. In spite of the unevenness which is thus given to Engler's treatment it is well for scientific purposes that he has undertaken the study of the entire continent, particularly for the solution of problems in the history and movements of the flora, to say nothing of the fact that we have thereby secured the first account of the vegetation of the whole of Africa, and an account which—as respects most of the continent—is as detailed as present knowledge will permit.

For purposes of description Engler has divided Africa into five vegetational areas: the arid northern region of the Mediterranean coast and the Sahara, in which the flora resembles that of southern Europe; tropical East Africa, a region extending from Somaliland to the Cape; a small area in the southwestern part of the Cape which is distinguished by winter rains and a markedly peculiar flora; tropical and sub-tropical West Africa, a region comprising both desert and rain-forest; and the islands off the northwest coast. The most widespread types of vegetation south of the Sahara are sparsely wooded grassland, or savanna, and the still more sparsely wooded bush-steppe, which is practically desert, although possessing a far richer vegetation than the Sahara. The regions covered by heavy rain-forest are limited on the east coast to the vicinity of Zanzibar and on the west coast to the Congo valley and narrow belts on the Guinea Coast. Apparently these forests seldom attain the density and wealth of forms which characterize the forests of the most rainy portions of Mexico and South America. The vertical distribution of

vegetation has been studied chiefly on Ruwenzori and Kilimanjaro and in the mountains of Kamerun, all of which exhibit unusual types of vegetation, and possess a flora which has close affinities with that of Europe.

Engler has not only described the physiognomy of African vegetation and given lists of the common and characteristic plants and a wealth of detail regarding their gross anatomy, but he has done more than this in continually relating the changes in character of the vegetation to the changes in physical features, in soils, and in climate. His climatological data is chiefly drawn from Hann and Fraunberger, and are designed, naturally, to give only a very incomplete conception of the distribution of climatic conditions in Africa. It is possible, however, even with the incomplete knowledge of the present time, to discover a general correlation between the most distinct types of vegetation and the most marked climatic regions, some features of which correlation find a close parallel in the southern portion of North America.

The two volumes are profusely illustrated, partly with characteristic landscapes and views of the vegetation, but chiefly with cuts showing the foliage and flowers of individual species of plants. Detailed maps of the vegetation of the four German colonies are particularly well executed.

Professor Engler has been actuated in this work not only by its scientific importance, but by a realization of the practical value which natural vegetation possesses as an index of the agricultural possibilities of the various portions of Africa. We have every admiration for the manner in which the German nation is bringing its scientific workers into cooperation in aiding the early development of its colonial possessions. FORREST SHREVE.

Tripoli and Young Italy. By Charles Lapworth in collaboration with Miss Helen Zimmern. 347 pp. Map, ills. Stephen, Swift & Co., Ltd., London, 1912. 10s. 6d. 9 x 6.

This book attempts to define the "new Italy" recently seized by that kingdom in Africa. The author presents as comprehensively as possible the case for Italy. A review of the doings of the Turkish Government in Tripoli opens the discussion, and the indictment of Turkey is severe. So logical and forcible is the argument that the reader may be convinced that Italy's act was wholly justified. But the author perhaps weakens his case in the following chapter, which expounds the thesis that "Tripoli was a vital political necessity to Italy." The author gives a good account of the main features of Tripoli's history, estimates fairly her commercial value and is optimistic concerning her future development. The remainder of the book is an appreciation of Italy and is presented under the divisions of political, economic, intellectual and nationalist Italy. It closes with a discussion of Italy's place in European politics following her rise in prestige since the successful outcome of her Tripolitan experience. The book is entertaining and the subject-matter is carefully arranged.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

Tripoli the Mysterious. By Mabel Loomis Todd. xv and 214 pp. Ills., index. Small, Maynard & Co., Boston, 1912. $2. 8½ x 5½.

Two visits to Tripoli to view the eclipses of 1900 and 1905 gave Mrs. Todd an opportunity to get some vivid impressions concerning this country of the north of Africa. The picture which she presents is as she says "an incomplete one . . . though drawn with a loving and appreciative hand." We get slight glimpses of the white city of Tripoli, of a few of its buildings, relics and gardens, and especially of the harems, weddings, markets and funerals. However, Mrs. Todd shows herself more the astronomer than the tourist, and for this reason, probably, the chapters on the eclipses, with the fascinating city of Tripoli as a background, are especially interesting parts of the book.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

ASIA

Report on the Control of the Aborigines in Formosa. 45 pp. Maps, ills. Bureau of Aboriginal Affairs, Taihoku, Formosa, 1911. 9 x 6.

Two comparisons bearing upon this volume cannot fail of awakening surprise. The title suggests the classic remark passed between pot and kettle, for